

**Appln No. 10/036,235**  
**Amdt date May 11, 2004**  
**Reply to Office action of January 21, 2004**

### **REMARKS**

Applicant addresses each point raised by the Examiner in the January 21, 2004 Office action as follows:

#### **Elections/Restrictions**

Applicant acknowledges the election of the specified invention (claims) and species (figures), and has now canceled the claims that had been withdrawn from further consideration,

#### **Oath/Declaration**

Applicant acknowledges that the originally filed declaration failed to identify the inventor's citizenship and, accordingly, Applicant is submitting herewith a newly executed declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a).

#### **Drawings**

The Examiner objected to Figure 10 and Figures 12-14 as each allegedly containing two separate figures that should be labeled separately. Although Applicant respectfully submits that the originally filed figures do not need to be amended to be understood in light of the specification and claims, Applicant has amended Figures 10, 12, 13, and 14 to overcome the objections.

Specifically, Figure 10 has been amended to delete the first image depicted on the left side of the figure, such that only one image remains in the figure and, therefore, there is no need to separately label more than one figure. With respect to Figures 12-14, Applicant has separated the two images depicted in the originally filed figures by separately labeling each image, wherein the figures are now presented as Figures 12a, 12b, 13a, 13b, 14a, and 14b.

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In addressing the Examiner's concern with respect to Figures, 10, 12, 13, and 14, Applicant decided to amend additional figures in order to ensure single images containing multiple components are clearly recognized as being a single image. Thus, Applicant has amended Figures 1b, 2c, and 3c by adding brackets to each figure that show that each component of the image is a part of the same figure. In addition, as reflected by the above amendments to the Specification, Applicant amended the Specification where appropriate to be consistent with the amended figures.

Moreover, as a result of implementing the above-described amendments to the Figures, the arrangement of figures on particular sheets has changed. Accordingly, to avoid any possible confusion with respect to sheet numbers, Applicant is submitting a complete set of the originally filed drawings with amendments shown in red ink where appropriate, and a complete set of new formal drawings that will replace the originally filed drawings.

The originally filed drawings that show the above-described amendments in red ink are attached hereto as Appendix A, and the new formal drawings that incorporate the above-described amendments and serve to replace the originally filed drawings are attached hereto as Appendix B.

#### **Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 112**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27-30, and 32 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner specifically rejected claims 1, 8, 11, 14, 25, 28, and 32.

The specific rejections of claims 1, 8, 11, and 32 are no longer at issue because Applicant has cancelled claims 1-13 and 32.

As reflected by the above claim amendments, Applicant has overcome the specific rejections of claims 14, 25, and 28. Further, Applicant has overcome the

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claim rejection inherent in claim 30 by virtue of its dependence on claim 1. As reflected by the above amendment to claim 30, Applicant has re-written the claim as an independent claim that incorporates all of the limitations of claim 1, and has modified the language from original claim 1 in a way that overcomes the Examiner's rejection of now cancelled claim 1.

Therefore, the Examiner's rejections under 35 USC § 112, par. 2 of claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27-30, and 32 have either been overcome by claim amendment or rendered moot by claim cancellation. The amendments to the claims have neither added new matter nor narrowed the scope of the claims.

#### **Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 7, 8, 11, and 32 as being allegedly anticipated under 35 USC §102. Because Applicant has cancelled each of these claims, the claim rejections are moot and do not need to be traversed.

#### **Claim Rejection Under 35 USC § 103**

The Examiner rejected claim 13 as allegedly being unpatentable under 35 USC § 103. Because Applicant has cancelled this claim, the claim rejection is moot and does not need to be traversed.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner stated that claim 30 and claims 14-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 27-29 would be allowable if rewritten and/or amended.

The Examiner stated that claim 30 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As reflected by the above amendments to claim 30, Applicant has rewritten the claim to include the

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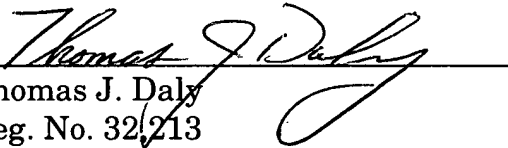
limitations of the base claim, claim 1, and to overcome the rejections under 35 USC § 112 that were made against claim 1 (and, thus, also claim 30). Therefore, claim 30 is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner stated that claims 14-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 27-29 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. As reflected by the above claim amendments, Applicant has overcome each of the rejections under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Therefore, claims 14-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 27-29 are in condition for allowance.

### **CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, pending claims 14-17, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 27-30 are in condition for allowance and, accordingly, a timely indication thereof is respectfully requested.

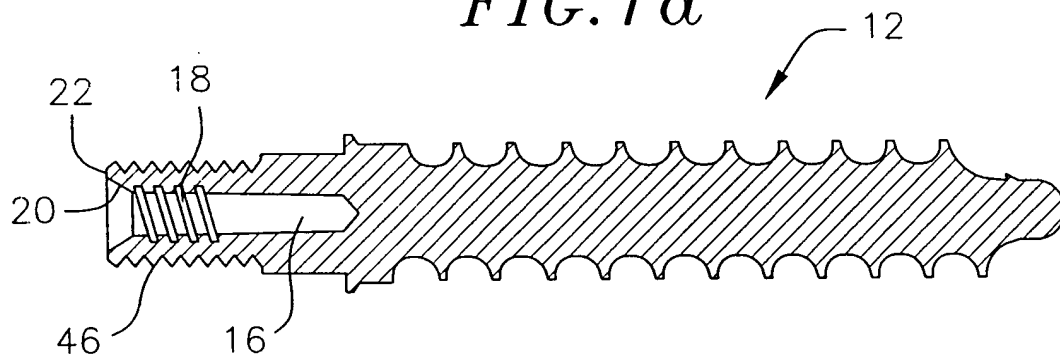
Respectfully submitted,  
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By   
Thomas J. Daly  
Reg. No. 32,213  
626/795-9900

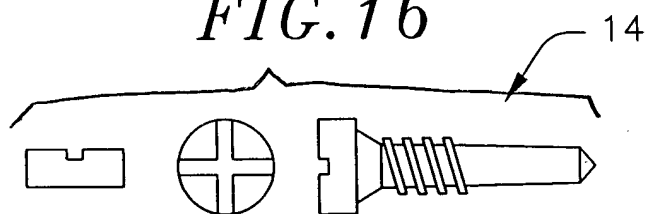
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*FIG. 1a*



*FIG. 1b*



*FIG. 1c*

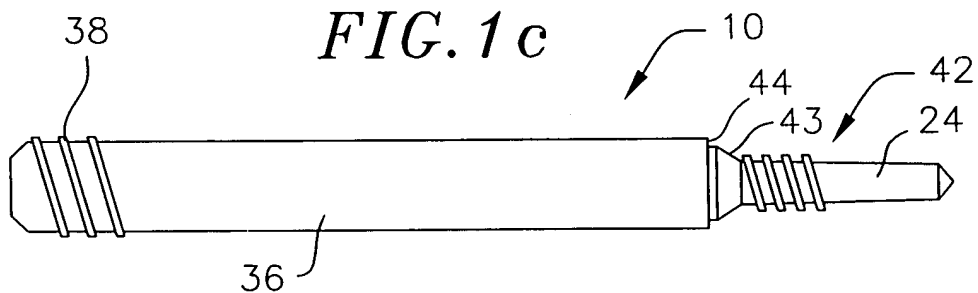




FIG. 2a

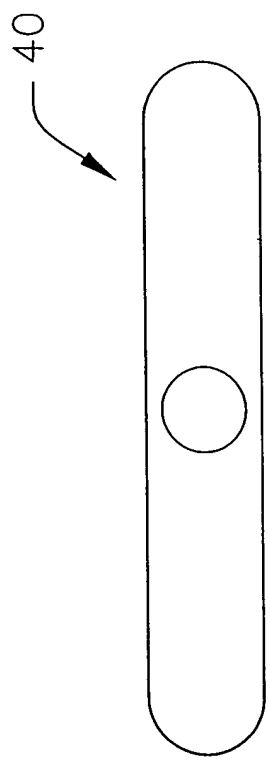


FIG. 2b

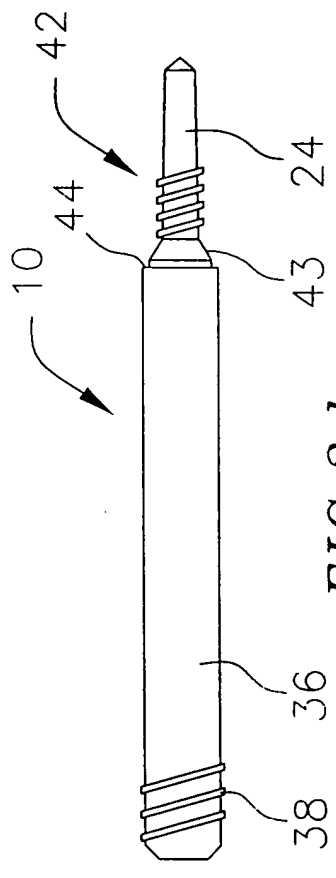


FIG. 2c

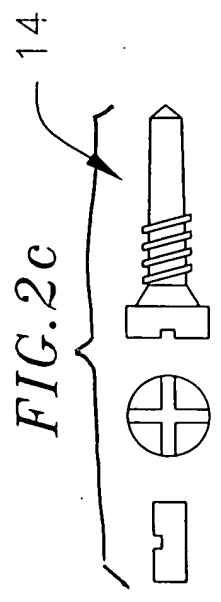


FIG. 2d

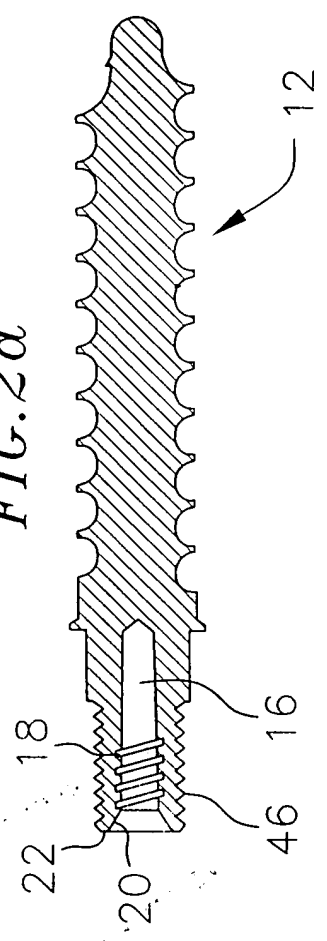




FIG. 3a

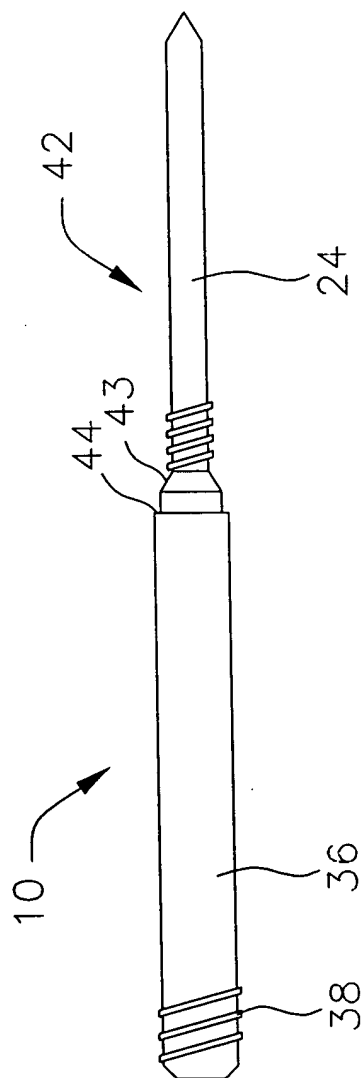


FIG. 3b

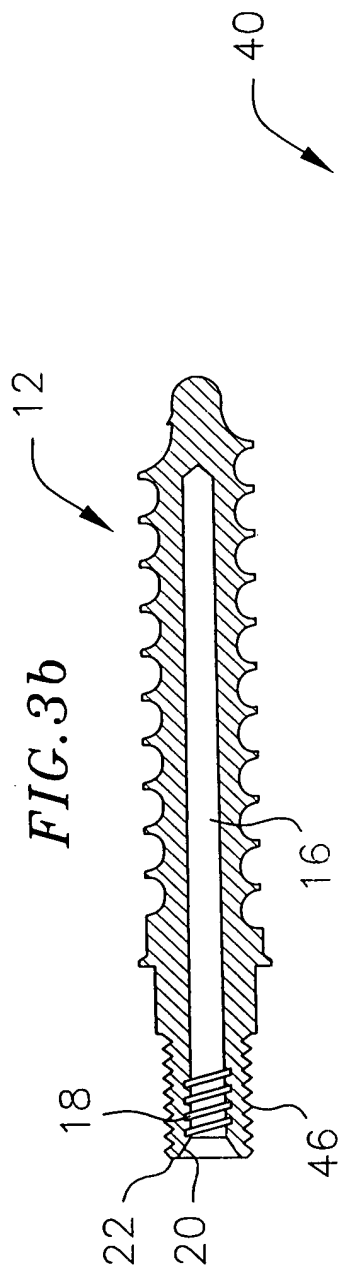


FIG. 3c

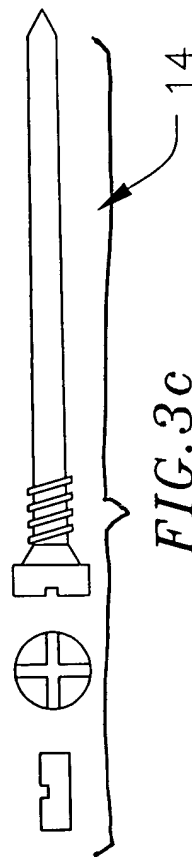
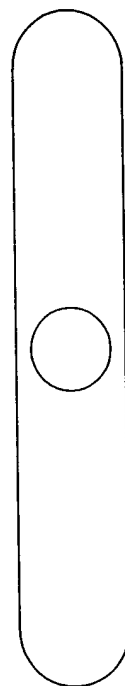
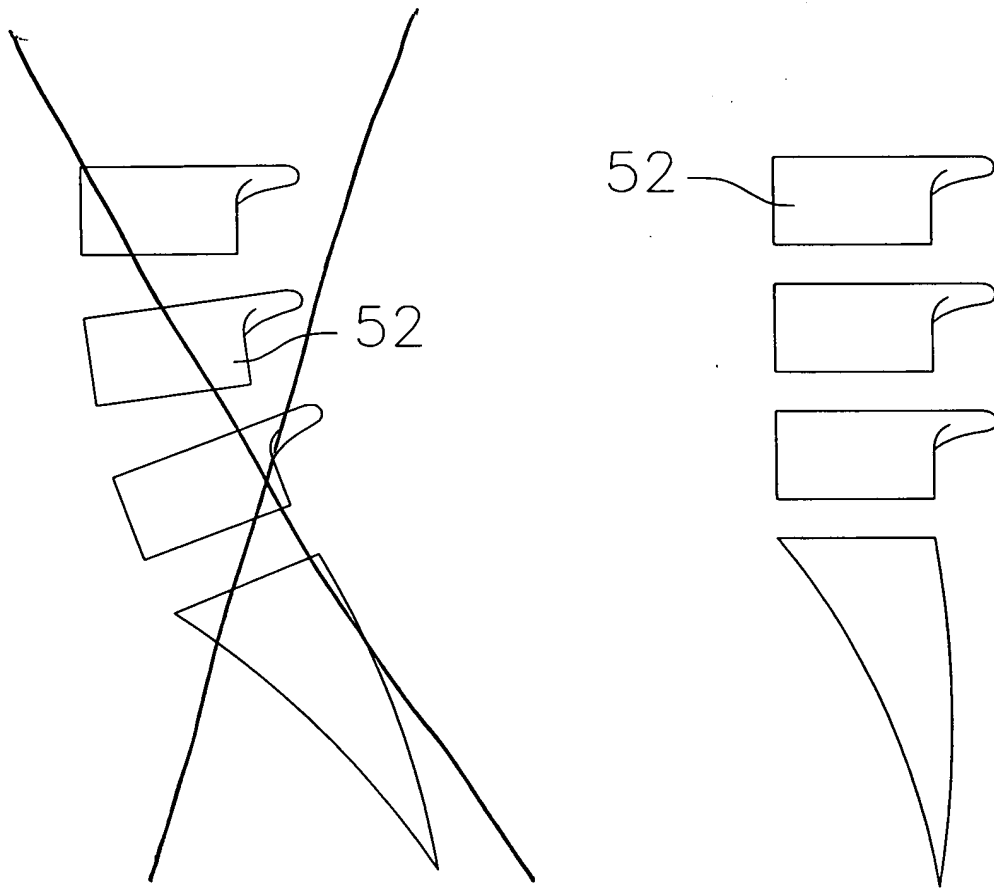


FIG. 3d





*FIG. 10*





FIG. 12a

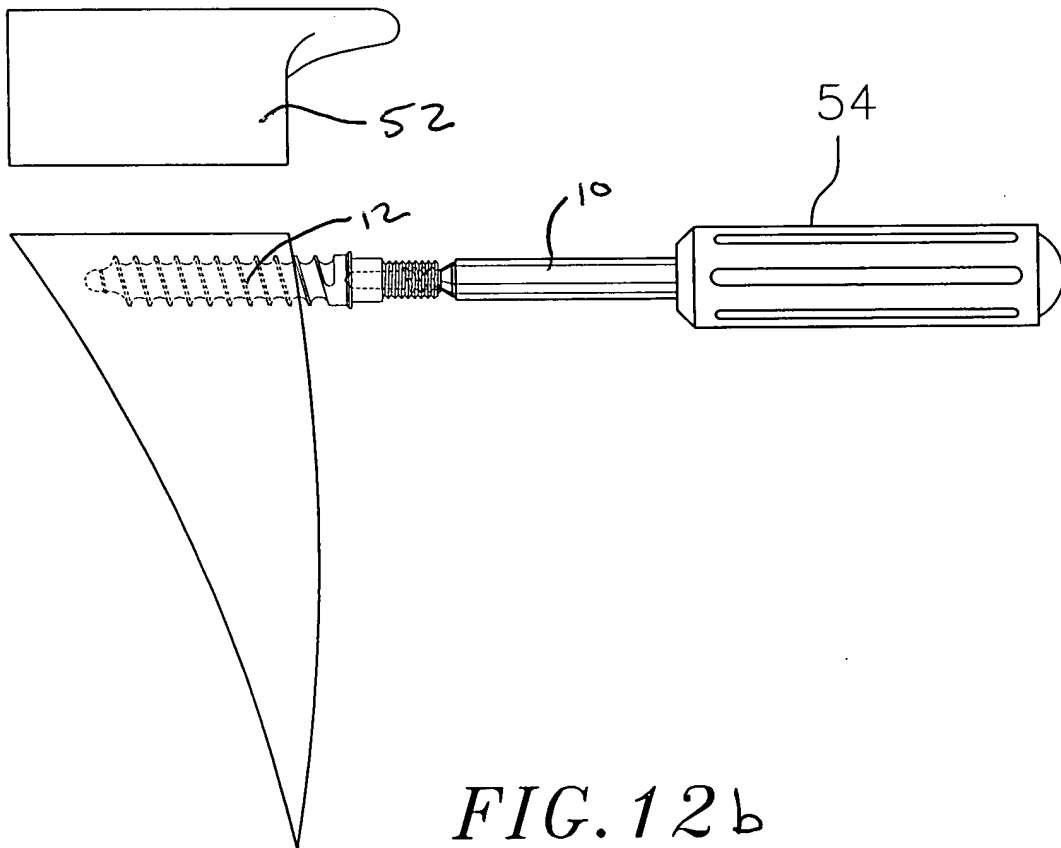
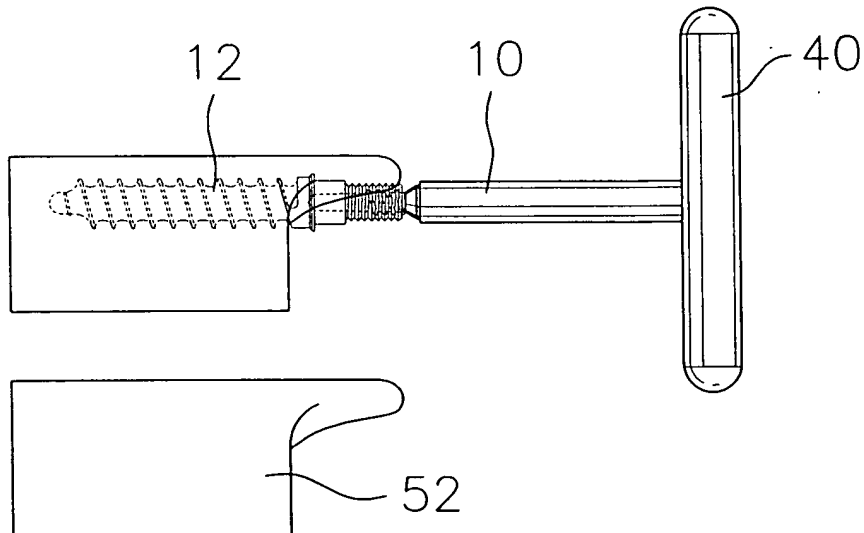


FIG. 12b



FIG. 13a

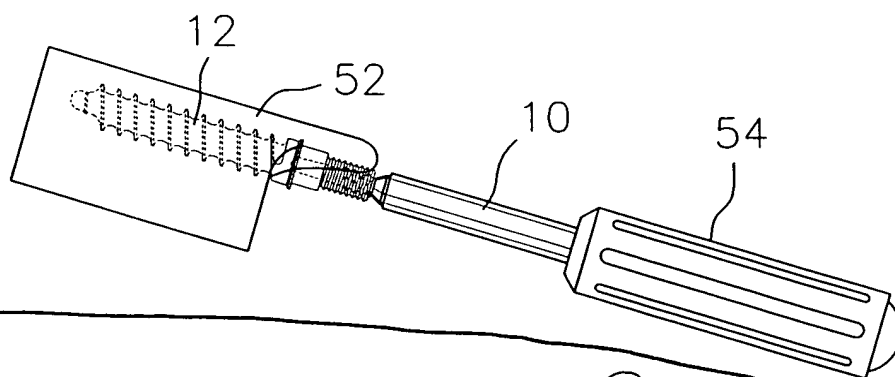
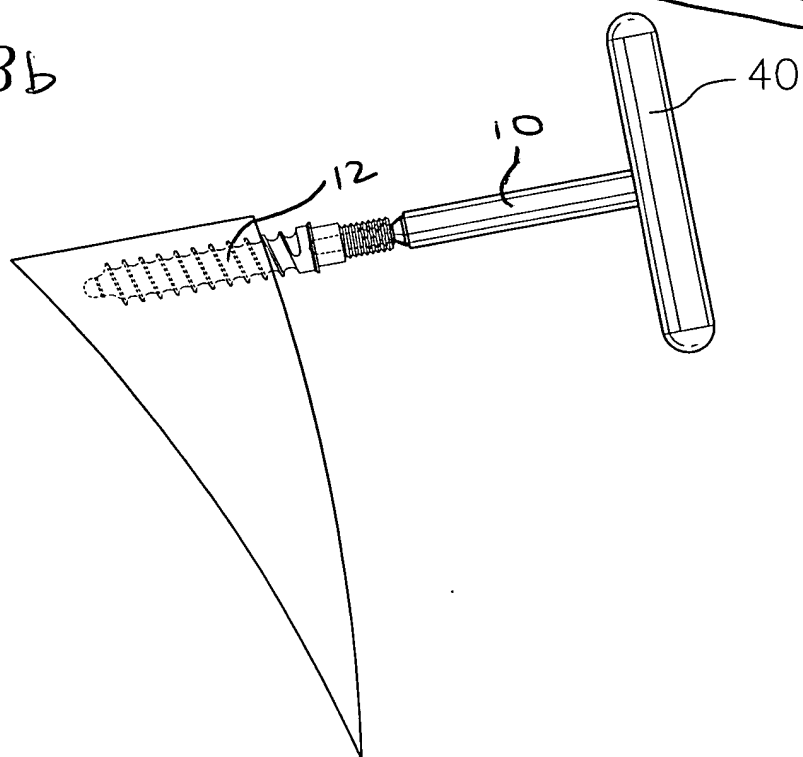
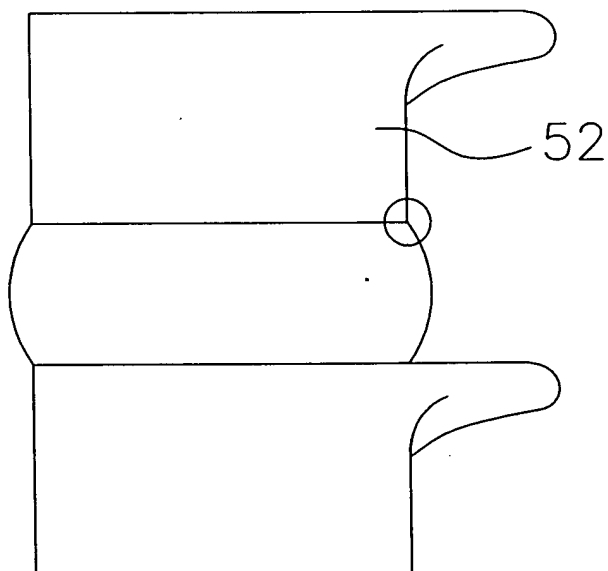


FIG. 13b





*FIG. 14a*



*FIG. 14b*

